

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A drug delivery system for the treatment of vascular disease comprising:
 - 5 a source, comprising a therapeutic dosage of at least one agent for treating atherosclerotic plaque; and
 - a catheter-based drug delivery mechanism operatively associated with the source for administering the therapeutic dosage of the at least one agent into the adventitial space proximate the atherosclerotic plaque lesion.
- 10 2. The drug delivery system for the treatment of vascular disease according to claim 1, wherein the at least one agent comprises rapamycin.
3. The drug delivery system for the treatment of vascular disease
15 according to claim 1, wherein the at least one agent comprises non-steroidal anti-inflammatories.
4. The drug delivery system for the treatment of vascular disease according to claim 1, wherein the at least one agent comprises steroidal anti-
20 inflammatories.
5. The drug delivery system for the treatment of vascular disease according to claim 1, wherein the at least one agent comprises metabolic
25 agents.
6. The drug delivery system for the treatment of vascular disease according to claim 1, wherein the at least one agent comprises anti-coagulants.
7. The drug delivery system for the treatment of vascular disease
30 according to claim 1, wherein the catheter-based drug delivery mechanism comprises an adventitial injection device.

8. A method for the treatment of vascular disease comprising the administration of a therapeutic dosage of at least one agent for treating atherosclerotic plaque into the adventitial space proximate the atherosclerotic plaque lesion.

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